

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested. Currently, claims 20-26 and 28-37 are pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The Office Action indicated that claims 20-23, 25-26, 28-32 and 34-37 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By this Amendment, claims 20, 28, 29, 34 and 37 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 21-26 depend from allowable claim 20, claims 30-33 depend from allowable claim 29 and claims 35-36 depend from allowable claim 34.

Accordingly, claims 20-26 and 28-37 are allowable.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 1-4 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Lester in view of Andeen. Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Lester in view of Shizukuishi et al. Claims 7-10, 12-16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Rampersad et al in view of Andeen. Claims 7, 11, 13 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over

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Rampersad et al in view of Shizukuishi et al. Since claims 1-18 have been canceled, these rejections are deemed moot.

Claims 19, 24, 27 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable Maguire et al in view of Lester. Claims 19 and 27 have been canceled. Claims 24 and 33 have been changed so that these claims depend from allowable claims 20 and 29, respectively.

Applicant therefore respectfully requests that all of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 be withdrawn.

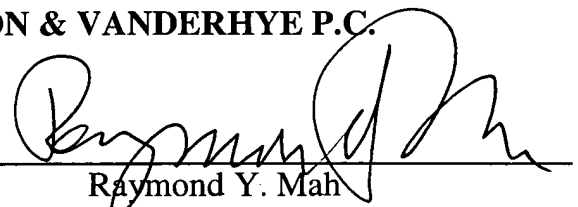
Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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